

Miles Cobb Farmhouse
Hinchley's Corner, intersection of State
Routes 90 and 131
Warren
Knox County
Maine

HABS No. ME-76

HABS
ME
7-WAR
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. ME-76

MILES COBB FARMHOUSE

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Address: Hinchley's Corner, intersection of State Routes 90 and 131, Warren, Knox County, Maine.

Present Owner and Occupant: William Cross, Warren, Maine.

Present Use: Residence.

Brief Statement of Significance: This structure is characteristic of the small, late 18th century farmhouse native to the area. The compact dwelling unit centered around its fireplaces and the attached outbuildings clearly indicate the severity of the climate. This structure was built in 1788 by Miles Cobb, a blacksmith from Bridgewater, Maine, who prospered with the community and became a prominent merchant.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Miles Cobb; T. Burton; William Hodgman; Attwood Moody; Addie Vinal; Raymond Vinal; Alfred Strout; W. W. Cross.

2. Date of erection: 1788.

3. Notes on alterations and additions: Dwelling and barn appear to be contemporaries, ell (summer kitchen) added later, as were outbuildings connecting ell to barn.

4. Important old views: Photograph c. 1900 in possession of Mrs. Ira Mallett, Warren, Maine.

5. Sources of information: Cyrus Eaton, Annals of the Town of Warren (Hallowell, Maine: Masters and Livermore, second edition, 1877), p. 238.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: This is an excellent example of typical Maine small, late 18th century farmhouse and attached outbuildings.

2. Condition of fabric: Excellent.

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B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Overall dimensions: One-and-a-half stories, 132' x 78', rectangular layout with attached outbuildings.
2. Foundations: Granite and brick foundations, hewn beams and sills.
3. Wall construction: Wood frame, horizontal lapped siding, beveled joints. Two walls covered with wood shingles over clapboards. Mortised and tenoned joints in major members of frame.
4. Stoops: Granite stoop.
5. Chimneys: Central brick chimney.
6. Openings:
 - a. Doorways: Simple Greek Revival doorway with side lights and pilasters.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Windows are not original. Original wood shutters and shutter hardware.
7. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roof. Asphalt shingle on wide boards.
 - b. Cornice: Simple wood cornice with no overhang.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: One-and-a-half stories. First floor typical 18th century central-chimney plan. Living room and dining or sitting room on each side of entry hall and stair. Winter kitchen directly behind entry hall and flanked by burning room and pantry; cellar under dwelling and ell; summer kitchen and shed connect house to barn.
2. Stairways: Of no importance; tight and with one turn.
3. Flooring: Wood floor planks, various widths.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plaster covered by paper. Paneling thought to be in winter kitchen.
5. Trim: Interior horizontal sliding shutters, two per opening one above the other, slide on track at head. Meeting rail and sill.

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6. Hardware: Strap iron used extensively in barn as connectors.

7. Lighting: Electric.

8. Heating: Fireplaces closed except one. Evidence of Dutch Oven in fireplace wall winter kitchen; niches in fireplace foundation for perishable storage.

D. Site

1. General setting and orientation: Complex faces south, parallel to the road; rural setting:

2. Landscaping: Informal.

Prepared by F. Blair Reeves, Architect
National Park Service
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